

EXHIBIT 5: Letters of Support

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 5061
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 445-6083
FAX (916) 445-2527

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CHAIR

SELECT COMMITTEE
BAY AREA INFRASTRUCTURE
CHAIR

California State Senate

SENATOR
TOM TORLAKSON
SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT



DISTRICT OFFICE
2801 CONCORD BOULEVARD
CONCORD, CA 94519
TEL (925) 602-6593
FAX (925) 602-6598

JOINT GOVERNMENT CENTER
420 WEST 3RD STREET
ANTIOCH, CA 94509
TEL (925) 754-1461
FAX (925) 778-5174

WEST COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE
111 CIVIC DRIVE
HERCULES, CA 94547
TEL (800) 859-9900

December 5, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in strong support of the East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) \$2.2 million grant application to California Coastal Conservancy, SF Bay Area Conservancy Program, for acquisition of a major portion of the Las Trampas Corridor property, expanding Las Trampas Wilderness Regional Preserve. The estimated cost of the entire corridor is \$6,000,000.

This 940-acre property, located northwest of Las Trampas Wilderness Preserve, possesses significant natural resources and will provide a buffer to protect trails, wildlife corridors and the visual integrity with existing parks. The property's ridgeline dominates the viewshed of the surrounding urban areas of Walnut Creek, Lafayette, and Moraga. It contains valuable habitat for mountain lion, golden eagle, Alameda whipsnake, California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander and rare plants. The project will also provide an important link in the Las Trampas to Briones Regional Trail, a segment of the Calaveras Ridge Trail. The property owners are offering the Park District a valuable acquisition that is consistent with EBRPD's Master Plan and Regional Parkland and Trail Map. This grant from the California State Coastal Conservancy will enable EBRPD to respond to this opportunity.

I strongly urge the California State Coastal Conservancy to give favorable consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Torlakson".

Tom Torlakson

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DEC 11 2003
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 5: Letters of Support



Loni Hancock

ASSEMBLYWOMAN, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT

cc: GM Comm
Doyle
Wenninger
Rasmussen
Aguilar

December 8, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in strong support of the East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) \$2.2 million grant application to California Coastal Conservancy, SF Bay Area Conservancy Program for acquisition of a major portion of the Last Trampas Corridor property, expanding Las Trampas Wilderness Regional Preserve. The estimated cost of the entire corridor is \$6,000,000.

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I strongly urge the California State Coastal Conservancy to give favorable consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

LONI HANCOCK
Assemblywoman

LH/brs

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HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
EDUCATION
JUDICIARY
LABOR & EMPLOYMENT
NATURAL RESOURCES
RULES

JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

SELECT COMMITTEE ON BRIDGING
THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP, CHAIR

EXHIBIT 5: Letters of Support



s a v e M O U N T D I A B L O

December 8, 2003

cc: GM Comm
Rasmussen
Doyle
Weninger

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Programs

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SMD Mailing Address:

1196 Boulevard Way #10

Walnut Creek, CA 94595

Telephone:

(925) 947-3535

Fax:

(925) 947-3603

Website:

www.savemountdiablo.org

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

It has come to my attention that the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) is applying to the California State Coastal Conservancy for \$2,200,000 for acquisition of the Las Trampas Corridor property as part of an extension of Las Trampas Wilderness Regional Preserve. The total purchase price is \$3,700,000. This grant from the California State Coastal Conservancy will enable EBRPD to purchase the property in a short time period.

The 673 acre property is located northwest of Las Trampas Wilderness Preserve at the eastern terminus of Hunsaker Canyon Road. It possesses significant natural resources and will provide a buffer to protect trails, wildlife corridors and the visual integrity with existing parks. The property owners are offering the District an acquisition opportunity that is consistent with the adopted EBRPD's Master Plan and Regional Parkland and Trail Map.

Through this letter I am urging the California State Coastal Conservancy to give favorable consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

Ron Brown
Executive Director

EXHIBIT 5: Letters of Support



P.O. Box 2452
Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 228-5460
Fax (925) 372-5460
E-mail:
info@muirheritagelandtrust.org
Website:
www.muirheritagelandtrust.org

December 8, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

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Through this letter I am urging the California State Coastal Conservancy to give favorable consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

Tina Batt
Muir Heritage Land Trust
P.O. Box 2452
Martinez, CA 94553

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DEC 10 2003

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 5: Letters of Support



MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 53
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

December 11, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Las Trampas Corridor Acquisition

Dear Mr. Morabito:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, I would like to express our strong support for East Bay Regional Park District's grant application to the California Coastal Conservancy for the acquisition of the Gleason property in the Las Trampas Corridor.

Totaling more than 670 acres, this property constitutes the most significant remaining undeveloped land in an otherwise urbanized area. Surrounded by the cities of Walnut Creek, Lafayette and Moraga, the proposed acquisition contains a variety of important plant communities, such as oak/bay woodland, chaparral, grassland and riparian. This property provides critical habitat for several state and federally listed and endangered species, including California red-legged frog and the Alameda whipsnake, as well as the mountain lion and golden eagle. Numerous drainages and year-round water support migratory songbirds and a diverse resident population of birds and other wildlife.

Relentless pressure from surrounding development makes the assemblage and protection of large parcels of habitat more critical than ever. The Gleason property represents a critical link in an important East Bay ridgeland wildlife corridor.

A diverse and healthy natural community is vital to our quality of life. East Bay Regional Park District's plans to acquire this property and protect it from development are consistent with Mt. Diablo Audubon Society's mission and goals. Accordingly, we strongly urge the Coastal Conservancy to support this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Michael R. Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" being the most prominent.

Michael R. Williams
President

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DEC 23 2003

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.